in Delhi is highly polluted mainly due to domestic wastewater discharge.

(b) and (c) The Central Pollution Control Board has taken the following steps in this regard:—

(i) Standards for river water quality have been prescribed and monitoring of river water quality is being done at 3 monitoring stations at Wazirabad, NOIDA Bridge and Okhla Barrage.

(ii) Minimal National Standards for effluents from major polluting industries have been prescribed.

(iii) Industries in the Union Territory of Delhi have been directed to put up effluent treatment plants within a time-frame and to treat their effluents to prescribed standdards

(iv) Legal action is taken against the defaulting units;

(v) Steps have been taken to set up Common Effluent Treatment Plant at Wazirpur Industrial Area; and

(vi) The Central Pollution Control Board has asked the Municipal Corporation of Delhi to take up further schemes in addition to the on-going schemes for the improvement or sewerage and drainage facilities to treat all the wastewater discharged from the city.

Disposal of loan applications from women entrepreneurs

1701. SHRI D. B CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have directed the nationalised banks to create separate cells for expeditious disposal of loan applications from women entrepreneurs;

(b) whether any of the nationalised banks has since created such cell to help women entrepreneurs in loan matters; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and to what exteni the women entrepreneurs will get adequate benefit from the banks as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India has reported that the National Level Standing Committee on Women Entrepreneurs had made certain suggestions in regard to credit flow to women entrepreneurs and monitoring thereof. These had been considered by Reserve Bank of India and it was felt appropriate to assign the responsibility of promoting and monitoring the flow of credit to women entrepreneurs to State Level Banker's Committees (SLBCs). Accordingly, Reserve Bank of India have instructed convenor banks for SLBCs to collect the necessary data regarding assistance to women entrepreneurs in the ristance to women ntrepreneurs in the same reviewed at the meetings of SLBCs.

Boundary disputes between Assam and Nagaland and Assam and Arunachal Pradesh

1702. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any fresh proposal with the Central Government for solving boundary disputes between Assam and Nagaland and Assam and Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) whether Government propose to set up Boundary Commissions for solving these issues; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) No fresh proposals have been received in this regard. In matters of inter-State boundary disputes, Government have always been of the

view that such disputes can be resolved only with the willing cooperation of the State Governments concerned. The Central Government remain in touch with the concerned State Governments in this regard.

There is no proposal to set up Boundary Commission at present; the State Government of Assam have taken this dispute to the Supreme Court where it is presently pending.

Loss of forests due to construction of Narmada Sagar Project and Sardar Sarovar Project

1703. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the estimated environmental costs on account of the loss of forests due to the construction of the Narmada Sagar Project and the Sardar Sarovar Project;

(b) whether these costs have been kept in mind clearing these projects: and

(c) what steps are being taken through which these costs could be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) The environmental cost estimated @ Rs. 126.74 lakhs per ha. for the loss of forest with density one is based on the empirical formula devised by the Forest Research Institute, Dehradun. This covers the loss of soil fertility, depletion of oxygen, depletion of ground water reserve and soil erosion etc over a period of 50 years without following the discounted cash flow procedure. The environmental cost thus calculated for the loss of forests by Narmada Sagar and Sardar Sarovar Project is Rs. 30,923 crores and Rs. 8,190 crores respectively.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Detailed Action Plans are under formulation by the project au horities to take up compensatory afforestation along with Catchment Area Treatment to offset the loss of forests.

Changes effected in the value of rupee

1704. PROF C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any formula by which the Reserve Bank of India effects changes in the rupee value after taking into account the worth of "basket of currencies".

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what is the mechanism through which such changes are effected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) The exchange rate of the rupee is fixed with reference to the value of a basket of currencies, mainly of countries which are India's major trading partners. Reserve Bank of India determines the exchange rate of the rupee based on the fluctuations in the currencies comprising the basket.

Action plan for prevention and control of pollution of river Krishna and its tributaries

1705. SHRI B SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an action plan for prevention and control of pollution of the river Krishna and its tributaries has been prepared jointly by the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra and submitted to the Government of India with the request to include this Action Plan in the remaining years of the Seventh Five